

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00

NSCE-00 PRS-01 USIE-00 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

INRE-00 /042 R

DRAFTED BY PA: D. BROWN

5/17/73 21512

APPROVED BY S/ S- O: W. NEWLIN

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O 171034 Z MAY 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 094147

TOSEC 90

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PERS (ROGERS, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: WASHPOST NEWS, COMMENT SUMMARY THURSDAY MAY 17

FOR BRAY.

WASHPOST DEVOTES 1,163 COLUMN INCHES TO WATERGATE, INCLUDING EIGHT OF TEN STORIES ON FRONT PAGE PLUS TWO FRONT PAGE PHOTOS. SECRETARY'S COVERAGE TWO COLUMN INCHES IN WORLD ROUNDUP SUMMARY PAGE 7.

1. ROGERS (FULL TEXT). LIMA - U. S. SECRETARY STATE WILLIAM P. ROGERS MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH GEN. JUAN VELSACO ALVARADO, LEADER PERU'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT WHOSE RELATIONS WITH U. S. HAVE BEEN STRAINED. ROGERS SAID MEETING QUOTE VERY USEFUL UNQUOTE AND PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED IT AS QUOTE VERY FRIENDLY UNQUOTE.

2. WATERGATE FRONT PAGE. LEAD SPREAD ACROSS EIGHT COLS TOPPAGE IS BERNSTEIN- WOODWARD BYLINER HEADED QUOTE VAST UNCLASSIFIED

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GOP UNDERCOVER OPERATION ORIGINATED IN 1969 JN QUOTE, SAYS

WATERGATE, ELLSBERG PSYCHIATRIST OFFICE BREAK-INS WERE PART OF ELABORATE, CONTINUOUS CAMPAIGN OF ILLEGAL, QUASILEGAL OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY NIXON ADMINISTRATION SINCE 1969, ACCORDING HIGHLY PLACED SOURCES IN EXECUTIVE BRANCH MANY MORE INSTANCES POLITICAL BURGLARIES, BUGGING, SPYING, SABOTAGE NOT YET PUBLICLY REVEALED, ACCORDING SAME SOURCES. OFF-LEAD IS RESIGNATION SEC CHAIRMAN G. BRADFORD COOK, WHO SAID FOUND HIMSELF IN QUOTE WEB OF CIRCUMSTANCES UNQUOTE CONNECTED WITH AGENCY'S INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION ROBERT L. VESCO. COOK SAYS HE FEARED QUOTE EFFECTIVENESS OF AGENCY MIGHT BE IMPAIRED UNQUOTE HAD HE NOT RESIGNED. SECOND OFF-LEAD IS WARREN CHRISTOPHER REMOVES HIMSELF FROM CONSIDERATION AS SPECIAL WATERGATE PROSECUTOR, SECOND PERSON IN TWO DAYS TO DO SO. JOHN MACKENZIE BY-LINER SAYS DEVELOPMENT CAME AT END OF DAY OF INCREASED SIGNS SENATE RESISTANCE RICHARDSON'S VIEW OF PROSECUTOR'S PROPER ROLE, APPEARED DEEPEN UNCERTAINTY RICHARDSON'S NOMINATION ITSELF. WILLIAM CLAIBORNE BY-LINER ON HELMS TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE QUOTES SEN. MCCLELLAN LATER ANGRILY ACCUSED WHITE HOUSE OF VIOLATING NATIONAL SECURITY ACT BY TRYING PRESSURE CIA INTO COVERING UP FINANCIAL MANIPULATIONS, MCCLELLAN ADDS QUOTE SEVERAL HIGH WHITE HOUSE AIDES INVOKED NAME PRESIDENT UNQUOTE WHEN THEY ASKED CIA TO HELP COVER UP. MURREY MARDER QUOTES WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN AS SAYING PRESIDENT PERSONALLY AUTHORIZED USE 17 WIRETAPS ON OFFICIALS, NEWSMEN BETWEEN 1969-1971 ALTHOUGH PRACTICE REPORTEDLY SPURNED BY KENNEDY-JOHNSON ADMINISTRATIONS AS TOO QUOTE DAMAGING UNQUOTE TO USE. CARROLL KILPATRICK BY-LINER SAYS PRESIDENT DID NOT TALK WITH DEAN BEFORE DECLARING LAST AUG. 29 THAT INVESTIGATION BY DEAN SHOWED NO ONE THEN ON WHITE HOUSE STAFF INVOLVED IN WATERGATE SCANDAL, ADDS ZIEGLER SAYS PRESIDENT ORDERED INVESTIGATION THROUGH QUOTE SENIOR UNQUOTE AIDES, RECEIVED DEAN'S REPORT ORALLY IN SAME WAY. BOX SAYS ALL THREE TV NETWORKS WILL BEGIN LIVE COVERAGE ERVIN COMMITTEE HEARINGS AT 10 A.M. THURSDAY, DIRECTS READERS TO INSIDE PAGES WHERE THERE ARE NUMEROUS ERVIN COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILES, SIDEBARS COLUMNS, FEATURES DEVOTED TO UPCOMING HEARINGS. LAWRENCE MEYER-TIMOTHY ROBINSON FRONT PAGE BY-LINER SAYS LAW-

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YERS FOR HALDEMAN, EHRLICHMAN TELL FEDERAL JUDGE TWO AIDES QUOTE MAY BE INDICTED UNQUOTE AS RESULT FEDERAL GRAND JURY'S INVESTIGATION.

3. MOSCOW, HANOI ON WATERGATE. ROBERT KAISER MOSCOW DISPATCH PAGE EIGHT SAYS OFFICIAL SOVIET PRESS HAS FINALLY BROKEN SILENCE ON WATERGATE. LITRARY GAZETTE CARRIES

500- WORD STORY UNDER HEADLINE QUOTE WATERGATE AFFAIR: WHAT'S HAPPENING?" UNQUOTE SAYS UNSIGNED ARTICLE CAREFULLY WORDED, DOES NO STATE WHITE HOUSE OR PRESIDENT HAD ANY INVOLVEMENT. UNSOURCED STORY SAME PAGE SAYS OFFICIAL NORTH VIETNAM COMMUNIST PARTY PAPER PUBLISHES LONG DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF WATERGATE, CONCLUDES IT PROVES QUOTE UNITY BETWEEN U. S. GOVERNMENT'S DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLICY. VIETNAMESE PEOPLE KNOW U. S. IMPERIALISTS ONLY TOO WELL THROUGH THEIR CRUEL WAR ACTS, DECEITFUL TRICKS. UNQUOTE.

4. GOLDWATER ON WATERGATE. SEN. GOLDWATER IN WIDELY- REPORTED STATEMENT SAYS WATERGATE IS CAUSING QUOTE LOSS CONFIDENCE IN AMERICA'S ABILITY TO GOVERN UNQUOTE, URGES PRESIDENT TO QUOTE RESUME LEADERSHIP UNQUOTE ADDS PRICE OF GOLD AT DISASTEROUS HEIGHTS, CITES EQUALLY BAD EFFECT ON STOCK MARKET, SAYS ARMED SERVICES SUFFERING FROM LACK CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP OWING UNFILLED POSTS. GOLDWATER STATEMENT SUPPORTED BY SEN. HUGH SCOTT.

5. WATERGATE
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE094147
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D. BROWN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730546/aaaajhua.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 30 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Oct-2001 by daviscw>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980217
Subject: WASHPOST NEWS, COMMENT SUMMARY THURSDAY MAY 17
TAGS: PERS, (ROGERS, WILLIAM)
To: LIMA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005